Number 41

BAR HILL NEWSLETTER

1st March 1972

The monthly bulletin of the
Bar Hill Residents Association,
distributed to all residents

STOP PRESS
Please see
Side 4

New Residents

We welcome this month:

Mrs. and Mrs. Saunders, 59 Oatlands Avenue;
Mr. and Mrs. Jones, 73 Oatlands Avenue;
Mr. and Mrs. Croxon, 25 Otter Close;
Mr. and Mrs. Baker, 8 Foxhollow;
Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 84 Foxhollow;
Miss Gould, 10 Otter Close;
Mrs. Barnes, 53 Oatlands Avenue;
Mr. and Mrs. Vortman, 76 Foxhollow;
Mr. and Mrs. Malpas, 55 Oatlands Avenue;
Mr. and Mrs. Choat, 64 Oatlands Avenue;
Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, 22 Otter Close.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinchcliffe, 60 Oatlands Avenue
Miss Smith, 29 Otter Gardens
Mrs. Craske, 19 Partridge Drive
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick, 30 Otter Close
Mr. and Mrs. Liew, 74 Oatlands Avenue
Mr. and Mrs. Lovatt and Mrs. Wiskin, 80 Foxhollow
Mr. and Mrs. Sadler, 54 Oatlands Avenue
Mr. and Mrs. Wood, 4 Otter Gardens
Mr. and Mrs. Mutch, 26 Otter Gardens

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Bar Hill W.I.

Please note that our March meeting will be held on Thursday, 2nd March at 7.45 p.m. at Mrs. Hawkins's bungalow, 55 Acorn Avenue, when a member of the Cambridge Water Company will give a talk and show a film on water supply. We will be pleased to welcome any newcomers to Bar Hill to this meeting.

Clinic

A reminder that the Baby and Child Welfare Clinic is held in the School on the first Thursday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. The Doctor and Health Visitor are in attendance, and welfare foods are on sale.

Pre-School Playgroup

We are holding our Easter Fair on Saturday, 25th March in the School at 3 p.m. Do come and bring the family.

Anyone who would like to place their [redacted]'s name on the Playgroup waiting list should contact Mrs. Hook at 23 Almond Grove, Crafts Hill 352.

Baby Sitting List

New occupants in Phase 1 or Phase 6 who wish to join the Baby Sitting List should contact Jean Prandy, 15 Acorn Avenue (Crafts Hill 201).

New occupants in Phase 2 should contact Marie Purvey, 38 Otter Close (C.H. 327).

Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held in the School on Wednesday, 29th March at 7.30 p.m. At this Meeting the Parish Council and its representatives report to the Parish on the activities of their organisations during the year 1971-72.

It has become the custom that Village organisations use this opportunity to make reports on their activities. Some have already stated their intention to take part. Would any other organisations intending to take part let me know by 14th March, please.

A. Parrott, 2 Acorn Avenue, Crafts Hill 329

Secondary Education

A public forum on Secondary Education is being arranged for Monday, 17th April by the Bar Hill Labour Club. Local experts will be putting the case for the various methods of education currently in practice and under consideration, both locally and nationally. Please note the date: all are very welcome to attend this meeting on a subject of vital interest to most families in the Village.

Wives' Group

At our Jumble Sale on Thursday, 24th February we raised £20. All money we raise is for kitchen equipment in the Church Centre.

Now that our Church is taking shape and we shall at last have somewhere to meet, we must think seriously about the future. We shall soon be holding a general meeting in order to discuss all matters concerning the Wives' Group; we shall set a date as soon as possible. We shall need plenty of support so that we can form a proper membership and really get going.

Penny Fromant

Found

Found in Acorn Avenue: small wrist-watch with black strap. Apply 15 Almond Grove.

Accommodation for German Visitors during July and August 1972

Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Education Committee are arranging Visits and Exchanges between young people and adults in this county and in Landkreis Kempen/Krefeld, West Germany. Remuneration cannot be offered to host families, but they will have an opportunity of taking up places on a reciprocal basis when future parties visit Germany. Although it is hoped that hosts will be able to spend some time with their guest(s) they will not be expected to look after them for the whole of their stay, since a programme of activities will take members of the part out and about on most days.

Young People: Friday, 28th July to Monday, 31st July (3 nights)
Thursday 3rd August to Saturday, 5th August (2 nights)

Adults Saturday, 22nd July to Monday, 31st July (9 nights)
Thursday, 3rd August to Saturday, 5th August (2 nights)

Notes: please state preference, if any, for boy/girl, man/woman. Both parties will be staying elsewhere during the rest of their visit to England. If you are able to offer accommodation for only part of the time, the offer will still be very welcome.

If you are willing to help, please contact: Mr. J. Roberts, Organiser of Further Education, Education Department, Shire Hall, Cambridge, CB3 OAP.

Parish Council Meeting held on 15th February

Village Green The necessary meeting between the representatives of the County Council and Chesterton R.D.C. should take place in the near future. One resident has offered his help in obtaining quotations and this has been accepted.

Foxhollow-Appletree Road The Parish Council and Chesterton R.D.C. have agreed to the Developers' request that Appletree Road in Phase 6 be renamed Foxhollow. This change should prevent any further confusion over the names.

Health Centre The planning application was approved.

Public Rights of Way A map showing the routes of the Bar Hill-Lolworth Footpath and the Dry Drayton-A604 Bridle Path has been received. It will be put on display on the notice board in time for the walking season.

Cyclists A plea: that all adults and children who cycle along the Village paths have regard for pedestrians, especially mothers with prams and small children, and particularly along the narrowest paths.

Street Names The Parish Council has a list of some 50 street names which have been approved for use in Bar Hill. Some, such as Floxen Bridge for the fly-over, Pingle Corner (junction of Perimeter and access roads), Crafts Ring (Eastern half of Perimeter road) and Woodman Piece (Village Park) have associations with Bar Hill. A sample of the others suggested include Madwell Common (Village Green), Turnfurlong, Frohock Lane, Doves Drove, Jays Way, Owl Place and Queen Anne's Gate. Obviously, these do not agree with the Developers' policy, e.g. Appletree Road changed to Foxhollow, and they are likely to request more changes in the future. If you have any views on this type of change, or you would like to suggest suitable names for roads or features, the Parish Council would be pleased to hear them. You can make your suggestions to any members of the Parish Council, or to me.

A. Parrott, Clerk

Bar Hill Horticultural Society

Annual General Meeting This will be held in the School at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 14th March. After what should be a fairly short meeting, there will be a teach-in on the subject of vegetables, and we hope that anyone interested will turn up, whether or not they are members.

If you believe you have the enthusiasm or gardening knowledge and wish to be nominated as a committee member then please contact either E. Taylor, 28 Otter Gardens (tel. 284) or Mrs. J. Bishop, 18 Acorn Avenue (231).

Gardening Shop Will members please note that the shop has moved to a NEW location in the garage area at the bottom of Otter Close on the right side. This will be clearly marked during opening times (Sundays, 11.45 to 12.45). We have a fine selection of both flower and vegetable seeds and also gladioli corms as well as fertilisers, peat, grass seed and other garden requisites.

(for Gardening Hints, please see next page)

Coffee Evening

There will be a Coffee Evening on Friday, 31st March 1972 at 3 Foxhollow - proceeds to go to Resident Association Funds. All are welcome from 7.30 onwards.

Gardening Hints (Horticultural Society, contd.)

Start turf laying if weather permits and prepare the ground to be ready for seeding in April. Existing lawns can be top-dressed with lawn fertiliser and can be mown with the blades HIGH.

Generally liven up the garden by fertilising shrubs, planting gladioli in the middle of the month, sowing sweet peas, bedding-out wallflowers and polyanthus, transplanting and dividing herbaceous perennials, taking chrysanthemum cuttings and pruning bush and standard roses.

Village Green: Report on the Special Parish Meeting, 1.2.72

Some 60 people attended the Special Parish Meeting called by the Parish Council on the 1st of February to discuss plans for the provision of a Village Green.

The Parish Council explained that the Developers would not begin the preparation of the Village Green for at least six years, so that a usable green could not be available for at least eight years. Faced with this prospect, the Council were asking the meeting to approve a parish rate of 3.3p in the £ for the year 1972/3, so that preparation of the Green could start at once. Without the approval of a parish meeting, only 1.7p could be raised. A decision was needed urgently so that the scheme could be provided for in the next Chesterton R.D.C. precept. The estimated product of this rate would raise half the sum thought to be needed; the other half would come either from grants or from 1.7p rates in succeeding years.

The Council were closely questioned from the floor of the meeting on their proposals, and arguments and opinions both for and against were put forward. Against the proposals it was stated that the Developers would provide a Green sooner or later, so that there was no need for Villagers to pay for it at all. Others saw the matter as a question of principle, arguing that if we pay for this the Developers will expect us to pay for everything. Again it was pointed out that some rough play-areas had been provided, and that the need for a Village Green at all was questionable. Fears were expressed that once a parish rate had been levied, it would never be removed.

Support for the proposals came from many who thought that money spent would, in the end, be the most economical way of providing the green. Others who have lived lived already several years in the Village were appalled by the prospect of this basic amenity receding still further into the future. Once the Green existed, there was no chance of its being eroded in size by other demands on land in the Village. It was pointed out that the present and previous Parish Councils had worked on this problem for years and that the Village should support their efforts now that they had brought forward a hard-and-fast proposal which stood a good chance of success.

When the proposal was put to the vote, it was supported by 45 votes for and 14 against. This was a sufficient majority for the Parish Council to go ahead with their plans.

Mrs. Leakey, our County Councillor, and an ardent supporter of Bar Hill's interests, congratulated both the Parish Council for their initiative, and the audience for their participation.

E.J.Wills

Buy a Chair Campaign

You'll need a place to sit, when the Shared Church and Community Centre is opened.

Approximately 60 families are sponsoring chairs to date; if you wish to provide a chair, which will be used for religious activities, senior citizen functions, youth club, women's meetings, community socials, general meetings, etc., contact Mr. Tom Stephenson, 40 Partridge Drive (Crafts Hill 593).

Weekly collections, to a total of £3, are available.

Fencing

Feeling aggressive? Like to get rid of the day's frustrations? Perhaps Swavesey Fencing Club has the answer. Why not give it a try? We meet on Monday evenings at Swavesey Village College in the Gym at 7.30 p.m. Anyone interested please contact: Mr. and Mrs. B. Powell, 2 Oatlands Avenue (Crafts Hill 208); or Mrs. P. Fregant, 15 Almond Grove.

Stop Press

Please note that as from Monday, 6th March the School will be open as normal for evening meetings.

Youth and Community in Bar Hill

We are including with this Newsletter a report from our Youth Club Leader on current developments.

Bar Hill Residents Association
From the Secretary's Notepad

Road Safety At the end of January members of the Committee, together with representatives from the Village School and Parish Council met Mr. Impey and Mr. Cornwall from the County Surveyor's Dept. to discuss Road Safety in the Village. We will shortly be receiving a written report from the County Surveyor based on our talk, which we hope to have available for the Annual Parish Meeting on 29th March. The item will be on the Agenda, so that we can discuss the matter fully. In the meantime the following points may be worth considering:
(1) Road signs and road markings will not be provided by the County Council until the roads in the Village are adopted. (2) Each Phase of the Village will probably be adopted separately on completion. (3) The present recommended speed limit is not legally enforceable and the official limit will probably be 50 m.p.h.
(4) Prior to the improvement to the A604 and the provision of a flyover, the signposting, road and verge marking will need to be improved at the entrance to the Village. (5) The Committee have passed the following statement to the Public Enquiry discussing the improvement to the A604: "We, the B.H.R.A., are in favour of the proposed improvement to the A604 Cambridge to Huntingdon Road, provided that this includes the provision of the flyover giving access to and from the Village from both carriageways."

Village Park There is some concern about the projected route of the temporary path across the Village Park, but Mr. K. Nunn will be finalizing this on his next visit to Bar Hill.

The damage caused to the Park by the relaying of the spine path will be put right as soon as the "growing season" starts.

Drainage lagoons: we are now advised by the County Health Officer that the Developers have agreed to clean out these lagoons once a quarter, and if this proves to be insufficient they will review the situation at a later date.

Paths The relaying of paths has now been completed on Phase 2, but we are concerned about the unevenness of the surface and the poor finish to the rear of some house gateways.

Village Map The Developers will be siting a map of the Village near the Information Centre, which we hope will assist visitors. We shall keep the idea of further signposts in mind in case the map is not sufficient.

Village Fete A number of Village organisations have expressed an interest in holding a Village Fete and the first Committee meeting will be held at 8.00 p.m. on 6th March at 3 Foxhollow; representatives of Village organisations are invited.

New Shops Planning permission has been granted by the Parish Council to the application for the use of Unit 7 as a Fish and Chip shop.

Health Centre The plans for the Health Centre were put on view to the public recently at Shire Hall and the Parish Council have given their approval without any alterations.

Neighbourhood Council At the last meeting called to discuss the formation of a N.C., it was agreed that a working party be formed with representatives from Parish Council, School, Church, Youth organisations and BHRA to work out a constitution.

Newcomers' Evening The BHRA are running a coffee evening for new residents, to welcome them to the Village and to offer practical help where possible.

Hanover Housing Association A meeting has been called for Tuesday, 7th March. Mr. Keith Lomax, Management Officer, will discuss the "Integration of Old People into Village Life". Everyone is welcome to attend; please see Village noticeboard for details.

Aerials We are still actively pursuing the subject, and we think a decision by the Developers is imminent. Our thanks to those who wrote giving their views: we shall bear these points in mind.

Leases Enquiries suggest that the Developers are taking steps to prevent holders of 999-year leases from buying their freehold (normally a tenant can acquire the freehold after living in a property for 5 years under the Act, or for 5 years out of the last 10). If our information is correct, we think Leaseholders should know of the Developers' plans, and we are willing to make representations on behalf of the residents concerned to the Appropriate authorities, to oppose the Developers' application.

Police warnings (1) Following a series of burglaries, in which front doors were opened by means of a wire passed through the letter-box and round the door handle, you are advised either to fit an alternative lock operated with a key, or to fit a letter-"cage" inside the door. In case of doubt, the Crime Prevention Dept. are always happy to give detailed advice. (2) Although Village roads are not yet adopted, residents are still liable for prosecution under the Road Traffic Act (e.g. for keeping unlicensed vehicles on roads, driving without a licence or insurance, etc.)

Youth and Community in Bar Hill.

A Progress Report from the Youth Leader.

SEPTEMBER 1971. In September 1971 there were already almost 50 young people of secondary school age resident in Bar Hill. At that time no statutory or voluntary provision was being made for them other than participation in a local badminton group and association with uniformed organisations outside the village. Responsibility for the establishment of statutory Youth Service provision lies with the Warden and Youth Tutor at Swavesey, under the excellent Village College system, which embraces all villages in the catchment area.

Swavesey provides a 5 night a week purpose built Centre for all youngsters in the third year at Secondary school and over. This provision embodies an informal meeting place and social centre as well as opportunity for motor bike and car mechanics, art, drama and outdoor pursuits such as camping and pony trekking ... to name but a few of the possibilities open to young people at Swavesey Youth Centre. As well as administering the Centre the Youth Tutor - Miss M. Rose - has responsibility for initiating and encouraging local village clubs. These already exist at Papworth, Ellsworth and Fen Drayton.

Progress towards local provision in Bar Hill has been as follows:-

SEPTEMBER 1971. The Parish Council called a meeting of all young people of secondary age in Bar Hill. A Youth Committee was elected and the Council promised to ensure that adequate provision would be made for a football pitch. The Parish Council has no brief to proceed further than this . . i.e. it is not their job to start Youth Clubs.

OCTOBER 1971 On the suggestion of the Parish Council Chairman a member of the Village College Youth staff resident in Bar Hill.. Mrs M. Ellhagga.. met with the Youth Committee to discuss the desirability of pressing for a Club in Bar Hill as soon as premises could be found. The young people were extremely enthusiastic about this.

NOVEMBER 1971 Mrs Ellhagga investigated several premises all of which proved inadequate. By December many groups in Bar Hill were talking about Youth and Community work .. these included the local school, the Church Centre and the Village College.

DECEMBER 1971. Our Parish Council representative on the board of Governors of the Village College, Swavesey, was asked by representatives of the Church, the School and the College to call a meeting of representatives of different village groups to discuss the possibility of setting up a Community Council in Bar Hill. This body would not replace existing groups, but would coordinate and initiate action in e.g. the Youth field. At this meeting in December, which was attended by representatives of the School, the P.T.A., the Managers, the Residents Association, the Church, the Play Group, the Parish Council, the uniformed organisations and the Village College, it was decided to approach the Developers re the hire of a shop as a Centre for Youth work. Representatives were asked to report in full to their resptive groups re a Community Council and to bring reactions to a meeting in February.

JANUARY 1972. A request for the use of a shop was made and permission to rent on a unit basis was granted i.e. so much per session used. A shop floor and front would however have to be provided. By this time the Education Committee from Shire Hall had issued Mrs Ellhagga with the direct brief of opening a village club in Bar Hill as soon as premises could be obtained.

FEBRUARY 1972. The second meeting of the group to discuss the formation of a Community Council was held. This was a public meeting prior notice having been given in the Residents News Letter. Part of the urgency in the matter of a Community Council is the fact that there is no body in Bar Hill, which can co-ordinate work in the field of Youth and Community Development. With the possibility of the

Youth and Community in Bar Hill cont.

February 1972. Primary school becoming a recognised Community School and the advent of the Church Community Centre in September plus the immediate need for youth premises it is obvious that unilateral action can only work against the ultimate good of the community.

The meeting discussed in full the implications of our school becoming a Community School and decided to give full support to the Managers in their request. It was generally felt that those doing community work should see themselves as a team and should act through the umbrella of an organised Council, which would coordinate, inform and if need be initiate action.

This Council once set up would by no means displace the very important roles played by the Residents Association, the P.T.A. or the Church e.g., but would act as a common meeting ground for all Bar Hill groups.

In a small village where rapid expansion creates pressures and requirements in an unforeseen way and where it is difficult for the left hand to know what the right hand is doing, this would seem to serve an essential function.

The meeting heard of the developments in the youth field to date:-

a) The possibility of renting a shop.
b) The fortnightly group starting to use Bravesey Gym for five A side football. (Cancelled until the end of the power crisis)
c) The Over 14 Group which has started to meet on alternate weeks in homes.

On a) the meeting debated whether the proposition was financially viable, although grants would be available. It was left to the Warden, the Youth Tutor and the Club Leader to make further investigations and make what arrangements were best for the young people themselves.

A small working party was set up, one person representing each of the following groups:- the P.T.A., the Residents Assoc. and the Church. These would refer to other groups and draw up a proposed constitution for a Community Council. This would then be presented to Bar Hill for discussion as soon as possible.

NEW PLAN OF YOUTH CLUB.

Costing has now been done and it seems reasonable to proceed with the conversion of the shop as soon as possible. A work party will be set up and may involve a local Cambridge Community Action Group.

[illegible] BY MAIL.

There being no body at present within Bar Hill to which this decision can be brought, those responsible for youth work i.e. the Youth Leader and the Youth Tutor, hope to proceed within the next few weeks.

Once completed Bar Hill Youth Club will afford a social meeting place for OUR young people. No-one can deny that it is needed. Given this and the excellent facilities at Bravesey, Bar Hill young will be better off than many young people in urban areas.

February 197[illegible]. [illegible]cIlhagga. Club Leader.

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